

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A material spreader mounted on a truck, said material spreader comprising:

a trough mounted laterally on the truck, and

at least two conveying mechanisms mounted within said trough, each of said conveying mechanisms being independently driven to rotate in a desired direction and at a desired speed.

2. The material spreader according to claim 1, wherein:

said conveying mechanisms are each independently driven by a hydraulic motor.

3. The material spreader according to claim 2, wherein:

a first one of said at least two conveying mechanisms is driven to move material in a first direction while

a second one of said at least two conveying mechanisms is driven to move material in a second direction opposite to said first direction.

4. The material spreader according to claim 3, wherein:

said first conveying mechanism is driven to move material at a first speed, and

said second auger is driven to move material at a second speed different than said first speed.

5. The material spreader according to claim 1, wherein at least a

first one of said two conveying mechanisms is an auger and is driven to rotate to move material at a first speed, and

at least a second one of said at least two conveying mechanisms is driven to move material at a second speed different than said first speed.

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6. The material spreader according to claim 5, wherein said first and second conveying mechanisms are each independently driven to move by a hydraulic motor.

7. The material spreader according to claim 6, wherein a proportional control valve directs different amounts of hydraulic fluid to said hydraulic motors driving said first and second conveying mechanisms.

8. The material spreader according to claim 1, further including: at least one spinner positioned to receive material driven from said trough by one or more of said at least two conveying mechanisms and distribute said material in a desired pattern.

9. The material spreader according to claim 8, wherein: at least one adjustable chute directs material from said trough to a desired point on said at least one spinner.

10. The material spreader according to claim 9, wherein said at least one adjustable chute is adjusted to a desired angle relative to said trough and said at least one spinner by changing a length of chain suspending an end of said at least one adjustable chute.

11. A method of distributing material from a truck mounted material storage container, the truck including a longitudinal conveyor for moving the material to a laterally mounted trough having at least two lateral conveyors, said method comprising:

moving material from said material storage container along said longitudinal conveyor into said trough, and independently controlling the rate of

7 movement of said at least two lateral conveyors to distribute the material to
8 opposite sides of said trough in a desired ratio.

1 12. The method according to claim 11, further including:
2 dispensing the material from the opposite sides of said trough onto
3 spinners that fling the material outwardly in a desired pattern.

1 13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the step of dispensing
2 the material onto spinners includes adjusting the position on said spinners at which
3 the material is deposited.

1 14. The method according to claim 11, wherein a first one of said at
2 least two lateral conveyors is an auger that is rotated in a first direction at a first
3 speed, and a second one of said at least two lateral conveyors is an auger that is
4 rotated in a second direction at a second speed different than the first speed.

1 15. The method according to claim 11, wherein a first one of said at
2 least two lateral conveyors is a belt conveyor that is moved in a first direction at a
3 first speed, and a second one of said at least two lateral conveyors is a belt
4 conveyor that is moved in a second direction at a second speed different than the
5 first speed.

1 16. The method according to claim 11, wherein a first one of said at
2 least two lateral conveyors is a chain conveyor that is moved in a first direction at
3 a first speed, and a second one of said at least two lateral conveyors is a chain
4 conveyor that is moved in a second direction at a second speed different than the
5 first speed.